

FOR RELEASE: June 6, 2001

Paul Honored as a Treasury Guardian Ranks First in Congress for his Opposition to Pork-Barrel Spending

Washington, DC- Congressman Ron Paul has been named a "Treasury Guardian" by a leading Congressional watchdog organization. Taxpayers for Common Sense Action (TCS), a national nonpartisan advocate for taxpayers, recently released its annual Common Sense Taxpayer Scorecard. Congressman Paul scored first among 435 members of Congress for his fiscally responsible voting record in 2000! "Congress has two distinct choices," stated Jill Lancelot, Legislative Director for TCS. "It can either continue down the usual path of wasteful spending, or it can get serious about balancing its books. There are some exceptional members of Congress like Ron Paul looking out for the taxpayer's money. Unfortunately, politics too often trumps common sense when it comes to spending tax dollars." The TCS scorecard evaluates dozens of spending and tax votes that have a significant impact on federal taxpayers. The votes cover a broad variety of categories, including budget issues, subsidies, public lands, public works, and taxes. Only those lawmakers who score in the top 10% of their respective chambers by casting fiscally responsible votes are recognized as "Treasury Guardians." "Congress exceeded spending limits mandated by the 1997 Balanced Budget Act by \$50 billion in the 2000 budget," Lancelot continued. "For 2001, lawmakers have spent \$100 billion more than is allowed by the law." "The need for spending restraint has never been greater," Congressman Paul stated. "My approach is simple: I always vote against spending increases. I'm grateful to TCS for choosing to reward the effort of those few in Congress who stand opposed to pork-barrel politics."